

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3993
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2000
WELFARE SCHEMES FOR HANDICAPPED WOMEN
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether about 6 percent of total population are disabled and handicapped women;
- (b) if so, whether any policy or scheme is under consideration for implementation for the welfare of disabled and handicapped women;
- (c) if not, whether this will tantamount to denial of fundamental rights to the disabled women; and
- (d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SMT. MANEKA GANDHI)

(a) The National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) conducted a National Sample Survey 47th Round : July-December, 1991 to collect information on the number of persons with disabilities. Based on sample survey, about 1.9% of the total population in the country suffers from one or more physical disabilities. Another 3% of the estimated population suffers from delayed mental development. Thus, about 5% of the population suffers from one disability or the other. The prevalence rate for females is 1.7% in rural areas and 1.8% in urban areas. Between two sexes, the prevalence of physical disability is marginally higher among males than among females.

(b) A number of schemes are being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for benefit of persons with various disabilities including women. The National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDCL) is providing soft loans to persons with disabilities. Extra 2% rebate in interest is given to women availing loan from the Corporation.

(c)&(d) Does not arise.